DC
BABYLON 5
3
$1.95 US
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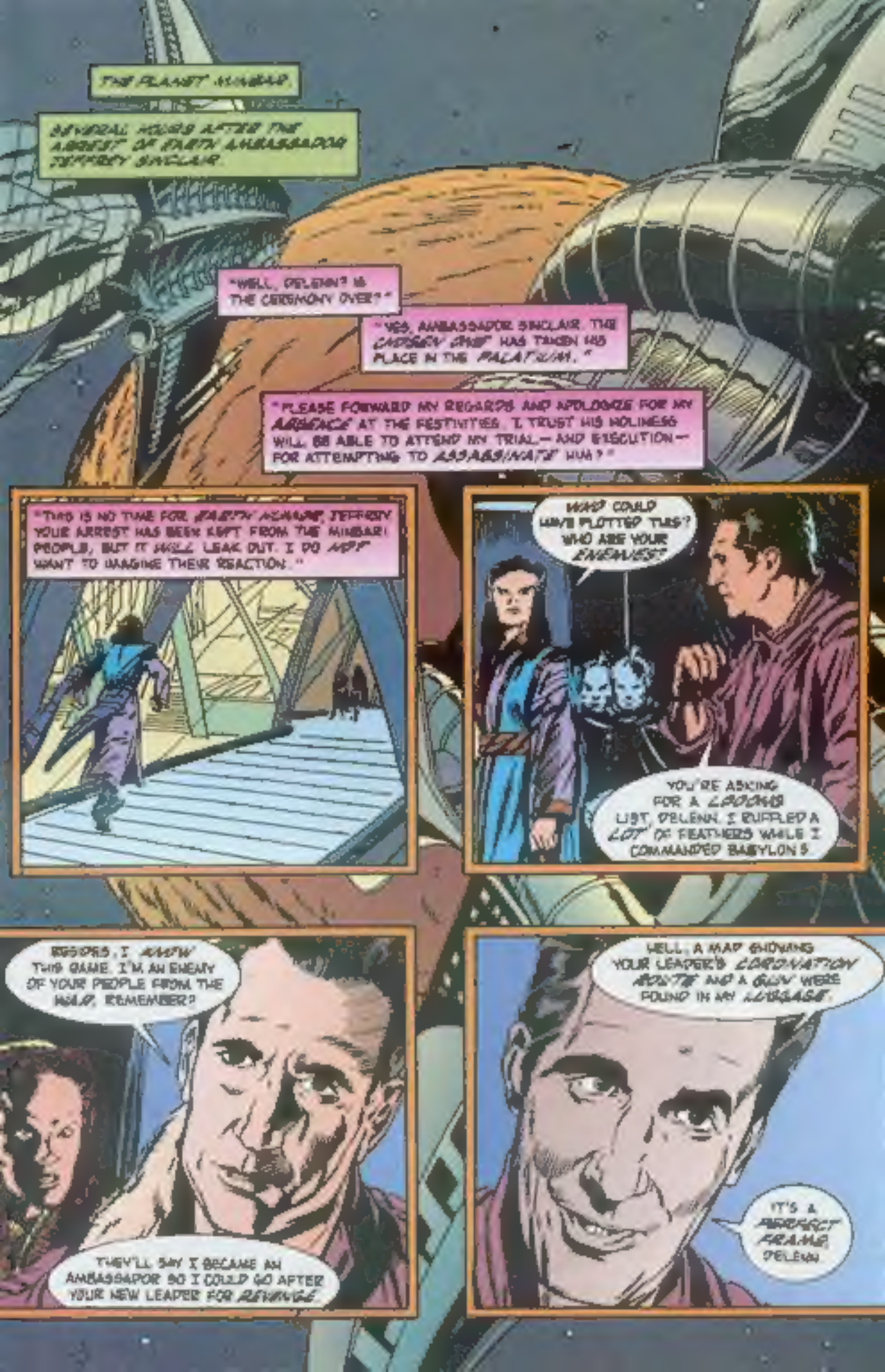
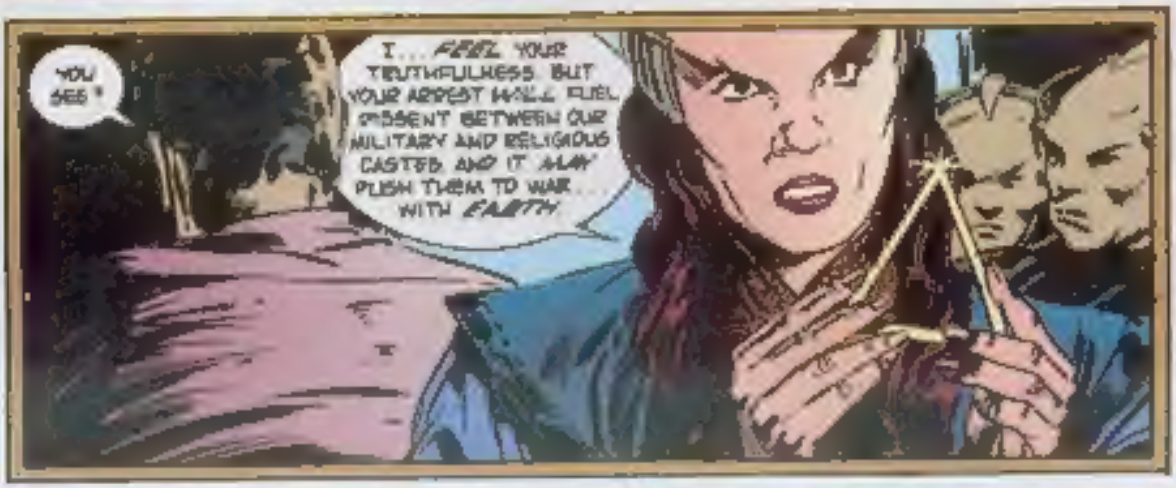
BASED ON THE GROUND-BREAKING WARNER BROS. TELEVISION SERIES
INSIDE A KILLER'S MIND?
DIRECT SALES
00311
MORETTI
GARZON


THE PLANET MINBAR.
SEVERAL HOURS AFTER THE ARREST OF EARTH AMBASSADOR JEFFREY SINCLAIR.
"WELL, DELENN? IS THE CEREMONY OVER?"
"YES, AMBASSADOR SINCLAIR. THE CATHEDRAL CHIEF HAS TAKEN HIS PLACE IN THE PALATIUM."
"PLEASE FORWARD MY REGARDS AND APOLOGIZE FOR MY ABSENCE AT THE FESTIVITIES. I TRUST HIS HOLINESS WILL BE ABLE TO ATTEND MY TRIAL— AND EXECUTION— FOR ATTEMPTING TO ASSASSINATE HIM."
"THIS IS NO TIME FOR EARTH HUMOR, JEFFREY. YOUR ARREST HAS BEEN KEPT FROM THE MINBARI PEOPLE, BUT IT WILL LEAK OUT. I DO NOT WANT TO IMAGINE THEIR REACTION."
WHO COULD HAVE PLOTTED THIS? WHO ARE YOUR ENEMIES?
YOU'RE ASKING FOR A LONGER LIST, DELENN. I RUFFLED A LOT OF FEATHERS WHILE I COMMANDED BABYLON 5
REGRETS, I HAVE THIS GAME. I'M AN ENEMY OF YOUR PEOPLE FROM THE WAR, REMEMBER?
THEY'LL SAY I BECAME AN AMBASSADOR SO I COULD GO AFTER YOUR NEW LEADER FOR REVENGE.
WELL, A MAP SHOWING YOUR LEADER'S CORONATION ROUTE AND A GUN WERE FOUND IN MY LUGGAGE.
IT'S A PERFECT FRAME, DELENN.

YOU GIVE UP TOO EASILY. THERE MUST BE AN ANSWER.

LOOK INTO MY EYES, DELENN. CAN YOU SWEAR YA NOT GUILTY... AND THEN CONVINCE ALL YOUR FELLOW MINBARI?
I-I—


YOU SEE?
I... FEEL YOUR TRUTHFULNESS. BUT YOUR ARREST WILL FUEL DISSENT BETWEEN OUR MILITARY AND RELIGIOUS CASTES AND IT MAY PUSH THEM TO WAR... WITH EARTH.

MAYBE I SHOULD HAVE QUIT EARTHFORCE AND STAYED ON BABYLON 5— EVEN AS A CIVILIAN.
I HAD FRIENDS THERE... AND CATHERINE.

FRIENDS...?
BUT IT WAS A MESSAGE FROM BABYLON 5 THAT TOLD US AN ASSASSIN WAS HERE ON MINBAR!
WHAT—?!

IN HARM'S WAY

BABYLON 5 SEVERAL PARSECS AWAY

"THAT'S UTTERLY... *RIDICULOUS*, SENATOR HIDOSHI!"

"DON'T JUDGE TOO QUICKLY, CAPTAIN SHERIDAN. YOU DIDN'T *KNOW* SINCLAIR. HE WAS SOMETIMES... *ERRATIC!*"

"BUT *WHY* WOULD HE DO IT, SENATOR? WHAT'S THE *MOTIVE*?"

"AH, CAPTAIN. I FORGET HOW MUCH *TIME* YOU SPENT OUT ON THE RIM. PERHAPS A BIT OF *HISTORY* IS IN ORDER—OFF THE RECORD."

WHILE STILL IN COMMAND OF BABYLON 5, SINCLAIR *CLAIMED* THAT EARTH PRESIDENT SANTIAGO'S TRAGIC DEATH WAS ACTUALLY AN *ASSASSINATION*.

SOON AFTER, THE MINBARI GOVERNMENT REQUESTED *JOHNATHEN SINCLAIR* AS EARTH'S FIRST AMBASSADOR ON MINBAR. HE WAS TRANSFERRED...

...AND YOU WERE APPOINTED BABYLON 5'S NEW COMMANDER.

IT'S POSSIBLE SINCLAIR THOUGHT THE MINBARI WERE *RESPONSIBLE* FOR SANTIAGO'S "ASSASSINATION," AND WERE BUYING HIS SILENCE. THAT'S *SPECULATION*, OF COURSE.

OF *COURSE*.

I UNDERSTAND HOW YOU *FEEL*, CAPTAIN. PRESIDENT CLARK WANTED TO RELAY THIS MESSAGE *HIMSELF*, BUT HE'S DEEP IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE MINBARI, TRYING TO DEFUSE THE SITUATION.

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BASED ON THE WARNER BROS. TELEVISION SERIES **BABYLON 5**
CREATED BY J. MICHAEL STRACZYNSKI

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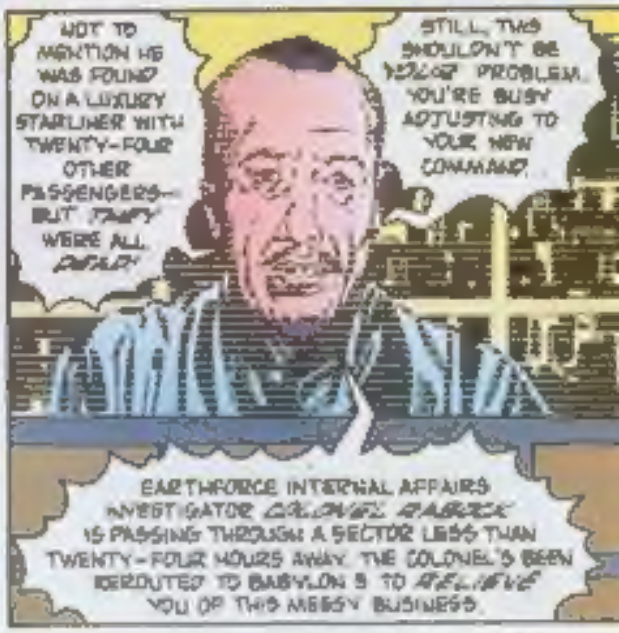
AS FOR YOUR ACCUSATION REGARDING THE MINBARI PLOT... THAT PSI-COP, DEXTER HALL—?
PSI-CORPS HAS SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

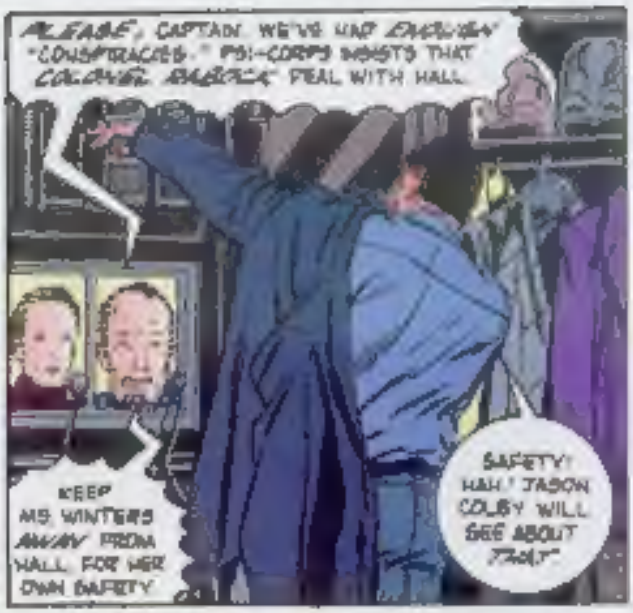
THEY WANT HIM UNDER TWENTY-FOUR-HOUR GUARD.
NO ONE BUT BABYLON 5'S MEDICAL STAFF IS TO HAVE ACCESS IS THAT CLEAR?"

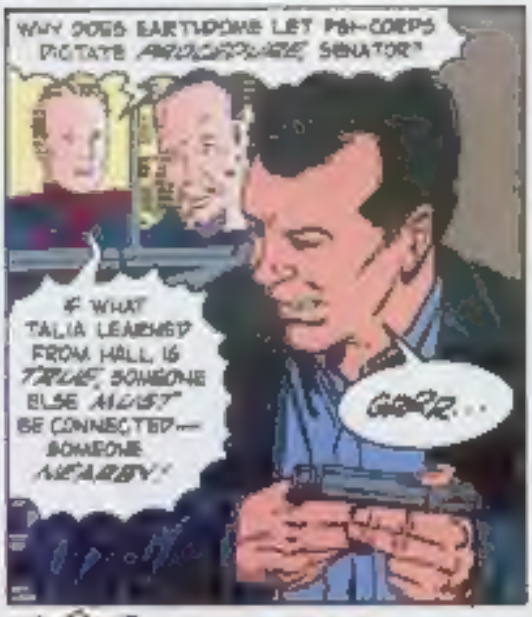
IF YOU'RE WORRYING HE'LL TRY TO KILL AGAIN, SENATOR, DON'T. HE'S CATATONIC.
CAPTAIN, THIS IS SERIOUS. THE MAN HAD KNOWLEDGE OF AN INTERGALACTIC ASSASSINATION PLOT.


NOT TO MENTION HE WAS FOUND ON A LUXURY STARLINER WITH TWENTY-FOUR OTHER PASSENGERS— BUT THEY WERE ALL DEAD!
STILL, THIS SHOULDN'T BE YOUR PROBLEM. YOU'RE BUSY ADJUSTING TO YOUR NEW COMMAND.
EARTHFORCE INTERNAL AFFAIRS INVESTIGATOR COLONEL ZABROCK IS PASSING THROUGH A SECTOR LESS THAN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS AWAY. THE COLONEL'S BEEN REROUTED TO BABYLON 5 TO RELIEVE YOU OF THIS MESSY BUSINESS.

BABYLON 5'S THE QUARTERS OF FRANKLIN COLEFAX
PLEASE PREPARE TO TURN OVER HALL AND ALL ACCUMULATED EVIDENCE WHEN THE COLONEL ARRIVES.
EXCUSE ME, SENATOR, BUT WE HAVE OUR OWN INVESTIGATION UNDER WAY. HALL'S OUR ONLY LINK TO THE MURDERER OF A BABYLON 5 SECURITY GUARD LAST NIGHT.
SORRY, BUT THIS IS A MATTER OF EARTH SECURITY. COLONEL ZABROCK HAS COMPLETE AUTHORITY.

SHE'S TALIA WINTERS, BABYLON 5'S TELEPATH, CLAIMS HALL DISCOVERED THE ASSASSINATION PLOT WHILE WORKING UNDERCOVER— SOMEONE TRIED TO KILL HIM TO KEEP HIM FROM TALKING.
THMP!
DAMMIT—!


PLEASE, CAPTAIN. WE'VE HAD ENOUGH "CONSPIRACIES." PSI-CORPS INSISTS THAT COLONEL ZAPATA DEAL WITH HALL.
KEEP MS. WINTERS AWAY FROM HALL FOR HER OWN SAFETY.
SAFETY! HAH! JASON COLBY WILL SEE ABOUT THAT!


WHY DOES EARTHDOME LET PSI-CORPS DICTATE ANYTHING, SENATOR?
IF WHAT TALIA LEARNED FROM HALL IS TRUE, SOMEONE ELSE MUST BE CONNECTED— SOMEONE NEARBY!
GRR...

JUST HALL'S KNOWLEDGE OF THE ASSASSINATION PLOT INDICATES THE WORK OF MORE THAN ONE MAN.
YOU MAY BE FEELING GUILTY FOR IMPLICATING YOUR PREDECESSOR IN A HEINOUS CRIME, JOHN...

...BUT GRASPING AT STRAWS WON'T HELP. THE SOONER THIS WRAPS UP, THE BETTER. PRESIDENT CLARK HAS HIGH HOPES FOR YOU.
DON'T PATRONIZE ME, SENATOR. I'M NOT A RUBBER STAMP. I'M AN EARTHFORCE COMMANDER, WITH A STATION TO RUN. THE SAFETY OF BABYLON 5 IS MY FIRST PRIORITY.

IF YOU TIE MY HANDS EVERY TIME THERE'S A DECISION TO BE MADE, PRESIDENT CLARK SHOULD HAVE BROUGHT IN A TRAINED SEAL TO RUN BABYLON 5.
YOUR JOB IS TO FOLLOW ORDERS, CAPTAIN SHERIDAN, NOT DICTATE POLICY! BUT SINCE YOU FEEL SO STRONGLY, I'LL TELL YOU WHY WE'RE DOING THIS.
PSI-CORPS HAS INFORMED US THAT HALL IS A RENEGADE— A SPECIAL AGENT WHO TURNED. THAT MAN IS WANTED AND DANGEROUS.

SORRY, SENATOR, BUT I'M NOT AFRAID OF PSI-CORPS UNTIL ZAPATA ARRIVES. I'LL CONTINUE THIS INVESTIGATION AS I SEE FIT.
I DON'T TELL ME, CAPTAIN...
HAVE YOU EVER HEARD OF THE ROGUE THEY CALL... "CYCLOPS"?

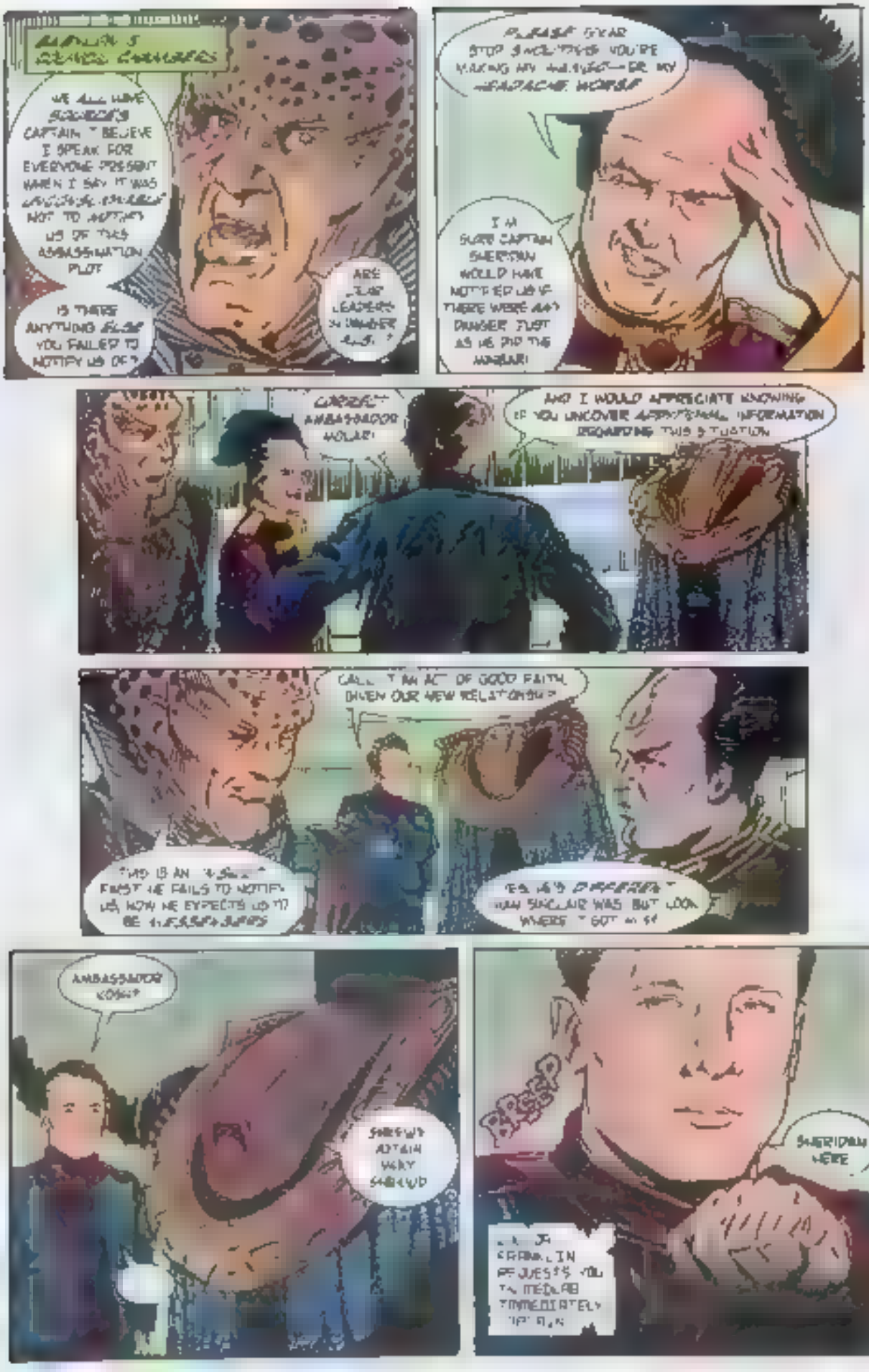
LOCALO.
—SO THEN I HAD TO GIVE UP MY SEAT ON THE COMMITTEE TO A SLUG WITH SIX EYES.
HAH! ALIEN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION. THE A.A.A. STRIKES AGAIN.
DON'T FART, LADIES
JUDGMENT DAY'S A-COMIN'...
...FOR EVERYDAY WHO HELPS ALIENS. LIKE ME. WHO'VE HIDES—
DAMMIT! NOT AGAIN!
HUH...?
FELT LIKE POWERFUL... MAGEY THINGAMAJIG. BUT...
GET A GRIP TALIA. NO ONE'S THERE.

SCRAMBLER LINK ACTIVATED.
CALEB!! WHAT THE HELL'S GOING ON? I JUST HEARD THAT TRAITOR HALL IS STILL ALIVE. IF HE GIVES UP DAMAGING INFORMATION, HE'LL RUIN EVERYTHING!
HALL SURRENDERED ME LAST NIGHT, MR WEBSTER. YOU NEVER SAID HE WAS A TELEPATH!
ANYHOW, THE MEDICAL REPORTS LIST HIS COMA AS NEUROLOGICAL. BUT WE'VE GOT BIGGER PROBLEMS NOW. HALL REACHED THE STATION'S TELEPATH BEFORE COLLAPSING...
I WAS ABOUT TO TAKE HER OUT, WHEN YOU INTERRUPTED.
WHAT?! BACK OFF, JASON. YOU'RE NOT AUTHORIZED! WINTERS IS PSI-CORPS PERSONNEL, NOT EARTHFORCE.
BUT SHE HAD CONTACT WITH HALL. SHE COULD IDENTIFY ME.
YOU'RE PANICKING. IF THEY KNEW ANYTHING, THEY'D ALREADY HAVE YOU IN CUSTODY.
I'M NOT TAKING CHANCES! IT'S TOO HOT HERE AS IT IS. I WANT YOU TO GET ME OFF BABYLON 5. UNDERSTAND?
JASON, WHAT'S GOING ON?
I-I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THIS. I WANT TO GO HOME AGAIN... START OVER.
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT. YOU'RE GETTING COLD FEET— TURNING YELLOW.
STACK IT, WEBSTER, OR I'LL BAIL OUT NOW. I'LL MAKE SURE EARTHFORCE FINDS OUT ABOUT OUR ACTIVITIES! WE'LL END UP IN A PENAL MINING COLONY... IF WE'RE LUCKY.
JASON... I'M ON MY WAY THERE NOW. WE CAN STILL TAKE CARE OF THE ALIENS AND ALIEN-LOVING HUMANS— FOR WHAT THEY DID TO YOUR WIFE.
DON'T MENTION HER, WEBSTER. I DID MY PART. YOU JUST FULFILL YOUR END OF THE BARGAIN. GET ME OFF BABYLON 5 WHEN YOU GET HERE— OR ELSE.
STAY CALM. I'LL USE THAT BONE-HEADED NARN AMBASSADOR TO RUN INTERFERENCE. I'LL BE THERE SOON TO GET YOU OFF THAT STATION, OUT.

BABYLON 5—CORE SHUTTLE
CYPHER? YOU GOTTA BE KIDDING.
I KNOW I COULD COUNT ON YOUR OBJECTIVE OPINION, MR GARIBALDI.
SORRY, CAPTAIN SHERIDAN. I JUST CAN'T BELIEVE THEY'RE TRYING TO REVIVE THAT OLD MYTH.
HIROSHI SAID "DEXTER HALL" IS AN ALIAS. PSI-CORPS PROVIDED A BRAIN-WAVE SCAN THAT MATCHES THE ONE DR FRANKLIN TOOK LAST NIGHT.
YEAH, YEAH. AND HIS P-12 RATED PSI-ABILITY MAKES HIM THE MOST DANGEROUS TERRORIST IN THE UNIVERSE. TRIED, CONVICTED AND SENTENCED TO TERMINATION IN ABSENTIA ON A DOZEN WORLDS. EVERYONE READS THAT PILE.
LOOK, CAPTAIN, I HATE THOSE PSI-CORPS BRAIN-MULCHERS, AND I'D LOVE TO NAB A BAD ONE. BUT IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE HALL'S A "SUPER-CRIMINAL" LIKE CYPHER.
LET'S KEEP THIS QUIET, MICHAEL. IF OTHER PLANETS WHERE CYPHER'S WANTED HEAR HE WAS IN MED-LAB, WE'LL HAVE A BIGGER INCIDENT THAN "DEATHWALKER."
NEWS ABOUT SINCLAIR MAY BREAK SOON. WE MUST PREPARE FOR ANY POSSIBILITY. I KNOW YOU'RE STILL RECOVERING FROM GETTING SHOT, BUT I NEED YOU BACK FULL-TIME.
I'D LIKE TO HELP, COMMANDER...
...BUT YOU'RE UPSET ABOUT SINCLAIR? MICHAEL, ARE YOU SURE SINCLAIR WASN'T INVOLVED?
PERMISSION TO SPEAK CANDIDLY, CAPTAIN.
OF COURSE.
IN THE WAR AGAINST THE MINBARI, ELEVEN YEARS AGO, YOU ENGINEERED EARTH'S ONLY VICTORY. I RESPECT YOUR ABILITY.

BUT I'VE ONLY KNOWN YOU RECENTLY. I SPENT YEARS WITH JEFF. HE MAY HAVE ASSISTED THE NARN AT ONCE, BUT THAT WAS A LONG TIME AGO.
SINCE THE WAR, HE AND I HAVE BEEN THROUGH A LOT. I'VE SEEN HIM RISK HIS NECK AND CAREER MANY TIMES FOR EVERYONE ON BABYLON 5.
JEFF WOULD NOT GET INVOLVED IN ANY ASSASSINATION! WHEN IT CAME TO TREATING ALL LIFE FORMS EQUALLY, JEFF BROKE THE MOLD.
NOW, NO ONE'S LIFTING A FINGER TO HELP HIM. BUT I WANT TO. WHILE I'M STILL ON RESTRICTED DUTY, I CAN NOSE AROUND AND FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENED.
BABCOCK WILL BE HERE IN LESS THAN A DAY, MICHAEL. WE COULD BE AT WAR BY THEN IF SOMETHING GOES WRONG.
I HAVE TO TRY. LOOK, TALIA SAW SOMEONE DRESSED AS SECURITY TRY TO KILL HALL WHEN SHE FROZE HIM.
HIROSHI ISHIDA'S CYPHER'S SUPERIOR PSI-ABILITY COULD HAVE MASKED HER.
YEAH, AND IF MY GRANNY HAD WHEELS SHE'D BE A WAGON. SO WHY ISN'T BARTHOLOMEW PURSUING TO FIND HALL'S CONNECTION TO THE ASSASSINATION PLOT?
IF THEY TAKE HIM BACK BEFORE WE FIND OUT WHAT REALLY HAPPENED WE'LL LOSE THE ONLY CONNECTION THAT MIGHT CLEAR JEFF.
SO WHY ISOLATE HALL FROM TALIA? SHE'S THE ONLY ONE WHO COULD QUESTION HIM. ARE THEY AFRAID WE'LL FIND SOMETHING INCRIMINATING?
YOU TELL ME. OBVIOUSLY, THEY'RE MORE WORRIED ABOUT JEFF THAN CLEARING JEFF. SO THEY SAW HALL IS "CYPHER," AND WE'RE NOT ALLOWED TO TOUCH.
I HEAR CYPHER DOESN'T REALLY EXIST. HE'S JUST PLAUSIBLE DENIABILITY FOR DEEP COVER OPS. MEANWHILE, JEFF'S LEFT TWISTING IN A SOLAR WIND — A BYSTANDER CAUGHT IN NARN'S WAY.
THIS WHOLE THING SMELLS OF COVER-UP, CAPTAIN.
ARE YOU SAYING THEY'RE TRYING TO MURDER HIM FOR FEAR OF WHAT HE MIGHT TELL US?
BREEP!
CAPTAIN SHERIDAN? THIS IS COMMAND-AND-CONTROL. AMBASSADOR G'KAR REQUIRES A MEETING IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS.
HOPE YOUR PLANS TO KEEP THIS QUIET HAVEN'T BLOWN UP IN YOUR FACE, CAPTAIN.
LET'S NOT JUMP TO CONCLUSIONS.
KEEP WORKING ON THIS "CYPHER" BUSINESS. BUT IF YOU WANT TO SAVE YOUR FRIEND, YOU BETTER COME UP WITH SOMETHING FAST.
YEAH, WELL. I KNOW WHERE TO START. I JUST WISH I KNEW WHAT WAS HAPPENING ON MARS.

THE JUDICIAL COURT OF LOKIS IV IS NOW IN SESSION
UNLESS I'M COMPLETELY WRONG YOU HONOR I STILL THINK I'M INNOCENT DELEON
I'VE USED EVERY LEGITIMATE TRACER EVERY SCAN AVAILABLE TO ME BUT I CAN FIND NO LINK BETWEEN THE SMUGGLED WEAPON AND ANYONE ON MINBAR
YOUR HONOR IS EXASPERATING, JEFFREY
LOOK IF YOU'D A WANT TO ARREST SOMEONE BRING BACK
HE GUN SMUGGLED IN MY LUGGAGE ABOARD YOUR SHIP WAS PACKED ON BABYLON 5 CALL GARIBALDI AND TELL HIM TO TRACK IT DOWN - TELL HIM HE OWES ME
HUMAN LOOKS LIKE THE NATIVES ARE GETTING RESTLESS
—AMBASSADOR DELEON
ALL HEROON
I HEARD ABOUT YOUR META-MORPHOSIS I HOPE YOU DID NOT DO IT FOR SENTIMENT YOU CAN'T SAVE HUMANS YOU DID THE LAST TIME WE MET
IS THAT WHY I WAS KEPT OFF AS TRIBUNAL?
YES I REQUESTED WHEN I WAS CHOSEN TO HEAD THE


MARTIN'S QUARTERS
WE ALL HAVE SCHEDULES, CAPTAIN. I BELIEVE I SPEAK FOR EVERYONE PRESENT WHEN I SAY IT WAS UNNECESSARY NOT TO NOTIFY US OF THIS ASSASSINATION PLOT
IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE YOU FAILED TO NOTIFY US OF?
ARE THESE LEADERS IN DANGER, SIR?
PLEASE, SIR! STOP SHOUTING! YOU'RE MAKING MY HEADACHE—OR MY HEADACHE WORSE
I AM SURE CAPTAIN SHERIDAN WOULD HAVE NOTIFIED US IF THERE WERE ANY DANGER. JUST AS HE DID THE MINBARI
CAPTAIN, AMBASSADOR MOLARI
AND I WOULD APPRECIATE KNOWING IF YOU UNCOVER ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING THIS SITUATION
CALL IT AN ACT OF GOOD FAITH GIVEN OUR NEW RELATIONSHIP
THIS IS AN [illegible] FIRST HE FAILS TO NOTIFY US, NOW HE EXPECTS US TO BE [illegible]
YES, HE'S DISCREET. JUST LIKE SINCLAIR WAS, BUT LOOK WHERE IT GOT HIM
AMBASSADOR LONG?
SHERIDAN WANTS ANOTHER MEETING SHOULD
PAGE
SHERIDAN HERE
[illegible] CAPTAIN REQUESTS YOU TO MEET AT IMMEDIATELY IN [illegible]

HOLD STILL, YOU LITTLE--
YOU'RE COMING WITH ME!

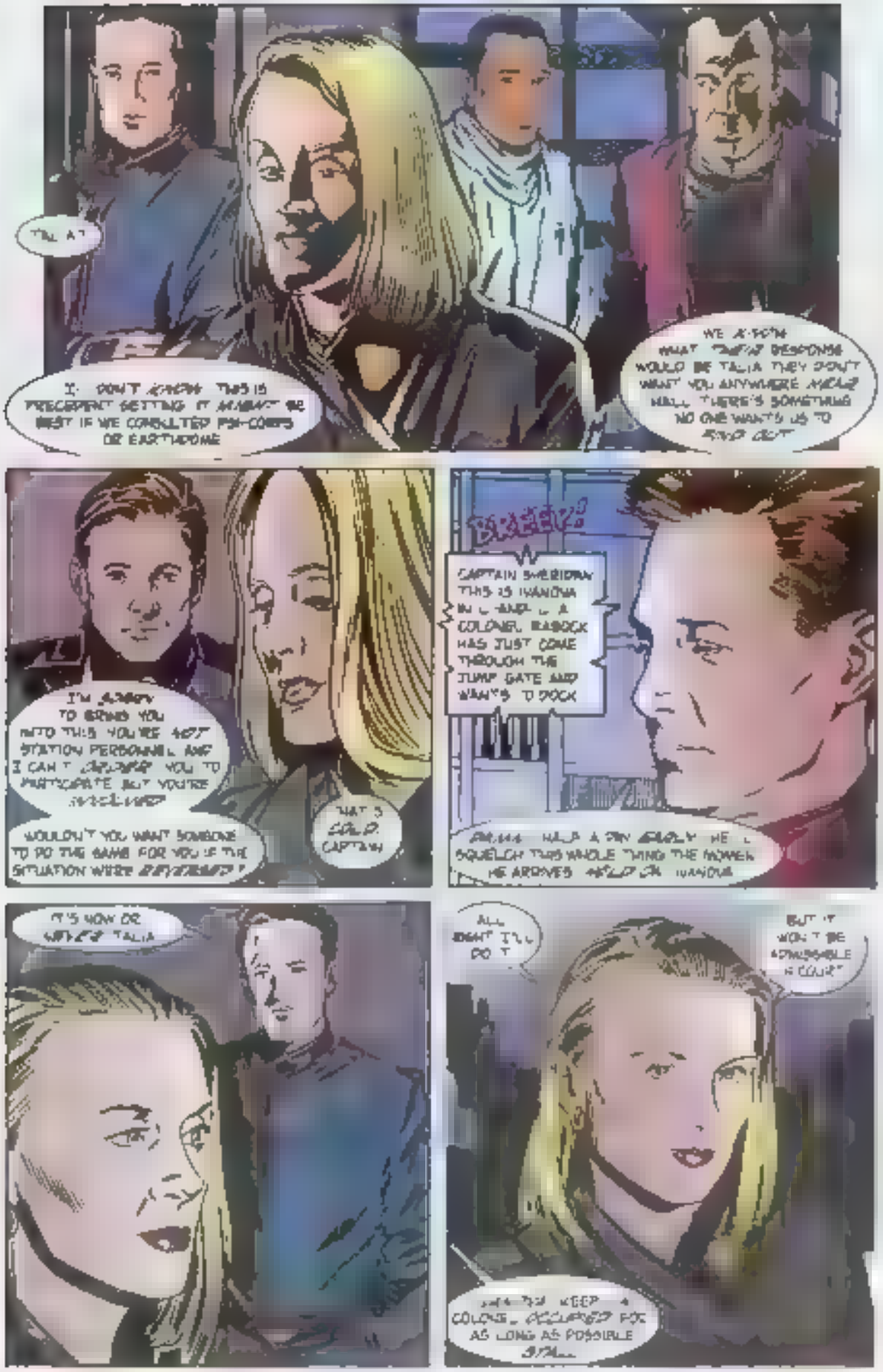
YOU WENT INTO MY GARAGE DIDN'T YOU? WELL, YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO IDENTIFY ANYTHING WHEN I'M THROUGH WITH--
DING!

SMASH!
I'LL BEGIN BEATING THEM! THEY'LL GET A GOOD LOOK AT ME BEFORE THIS POG CAN REGENERATE ANOTHER ...

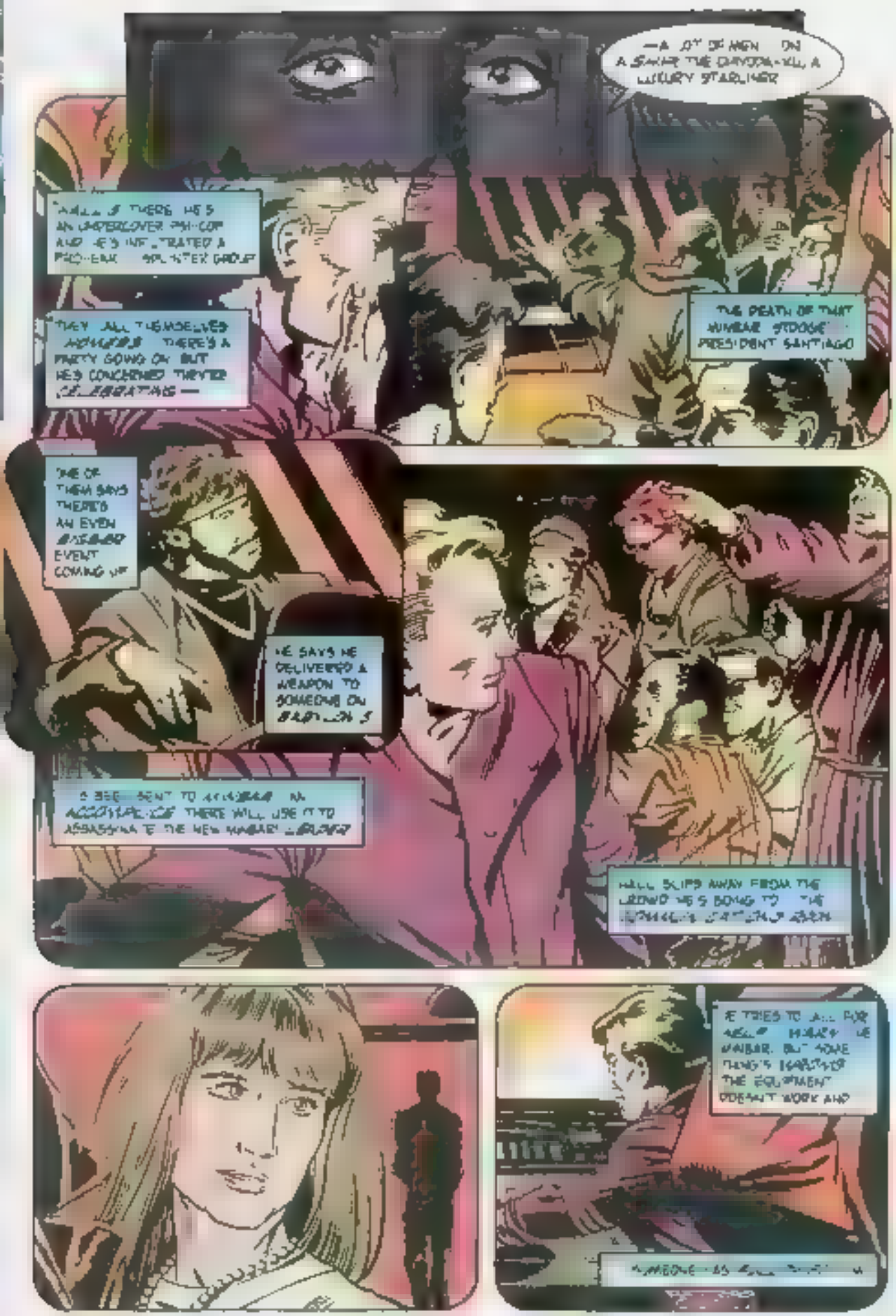
GOTTA MAKE A RUN FOR IT
STOP THAT MAN
UGH

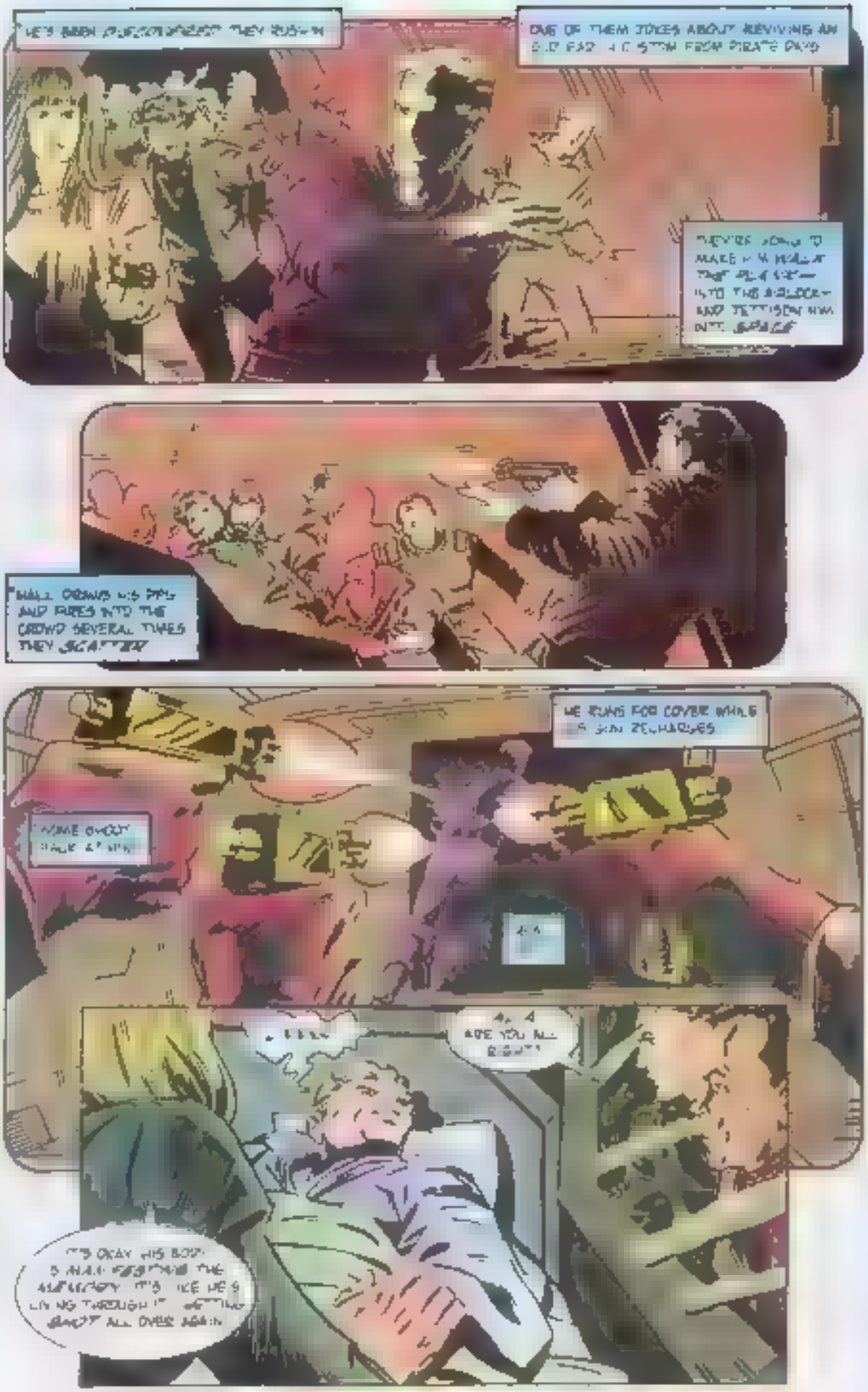
HE'S ... HUFF ... HE'S ALIVE ARE YOU ALL GOING TO TELL
I'LL ... HUFF ... I'LL ... HUFF ... THEY'LL NEVER BELIEVE ME WITH MICHAEL. I SAW HIS THOUGHTS. HE'S THE ONE WHO TRIED TO KILL
YEAH WELL I FIGURED HE WASN'T BELLING HARD ENOUGH WITH CHECKERS WE'VE GOTTA TELL SHERIDAN. LET'S GO

MEDICAL
ARE YOU SERIOUS ABOUT THIS CAPTAIN?
YOU JUST TOLD ME HIS COMA WAS IRREVERSIBLE ARE YOU SAYING HE MIGHT RECOVER NOW?
YOU NEVER KNOW I'M SURPRISED HE HELD ON THIS LONG IT'S JUST THAT HE FINALLY STARTED TO GIVE UP
DR FRANKLIN — MORE CRANIAL HEMORRHAGING VITAL SIGNS ARE DROPPING
HMMM LET ME SEE WHAT I CAN DO FIRST
IF THERE'S ANY CHANCE WE CAN REVIVE THIS CAPTAIN
THAT MAY NOT BE AN OPTION TA...
HMMM HE'S FADING FAST IT'S YOU'LL CALL DOCTOR BUT SOMEONE TRIED TO KILL TAL HE OVER WHAT THAT MAN KNOWS
IS THERE ANY DANGER FROM A MEDICAL STANDPOINT— IF TAL A REVIVES HIM?
NO IT'S A QUESTION OF ETHICS WHAT ARE PSI-CORPS RULES AND REGS ON WHAT WE'RE PLANNING?


TAL AT
I- DON'T KNOW THIS IS FREQUENT GETTING IT MIGHT BE BEST IF WE CONSULTED PSH-CORPS OR EARTHDOME
WE KNOW WHAT THEIR RESPONSE WOULD BE TALIA THEY DON'T WANT YOU ANYWHERE NEAR HERE THERE'S SOMETHING NO ONE WANTS US TO FIND OUT
I'M SORRY TO BRING YOU INTO THIS YOU'RE NOT STATION PERSONNEL AND I CAN'T ORDER YOU TO PARTICIPATE BUT YOU'RE INVOLVED
WOULDN'T YOU WANT SOMEONE TO DO THE SAME FOR YOU IF THE SITUATION WERE REVERSED?
WHAT'S GOING ON CAPTAIN
BEEP!
CAPTAIN SHERIDAN THIS IS IVANOVA IN L-SPACE A COLONEL BABCOCK HAS JUST COME THROUGH THE JUMP GATE AND WANTS TO DOCK
SHIT! HALF A DAY EARLY! HE'LL SQUELCH THIS WHOLE THING THE MOMENT HE ARRIVES HELLO OH IVANOVA
IT'S NOW OR NEVER TALIA
ALL RIGHT I'LL DO IT
BUT IT WON'T BE ADMISSIBLE IN COURT
KEEP A COLONEL OCCUPIED AS LONG AS POSSIBLE

BABYLON 5 TO [illegible] HAS A FREE DOCK
ALL FREE VORTA [illegible] IS JOURNEYCAKE HAVANA AL ARE RESCHEDULED A THIS TIME PLEASE HOLD YOUR POSITION WHILE WE CLEAR A BA
WELL THIS'LL BE [illegible] IF NO ELSE
OKAY I'VE STOPPED THE BLEEDING TEMPORARILY BUT THERE'S NO TELLING FOR HOW LONG
YES
ARE YOU READY [illegible]
[illegible] AFTER
HERE WE GO
SEE—

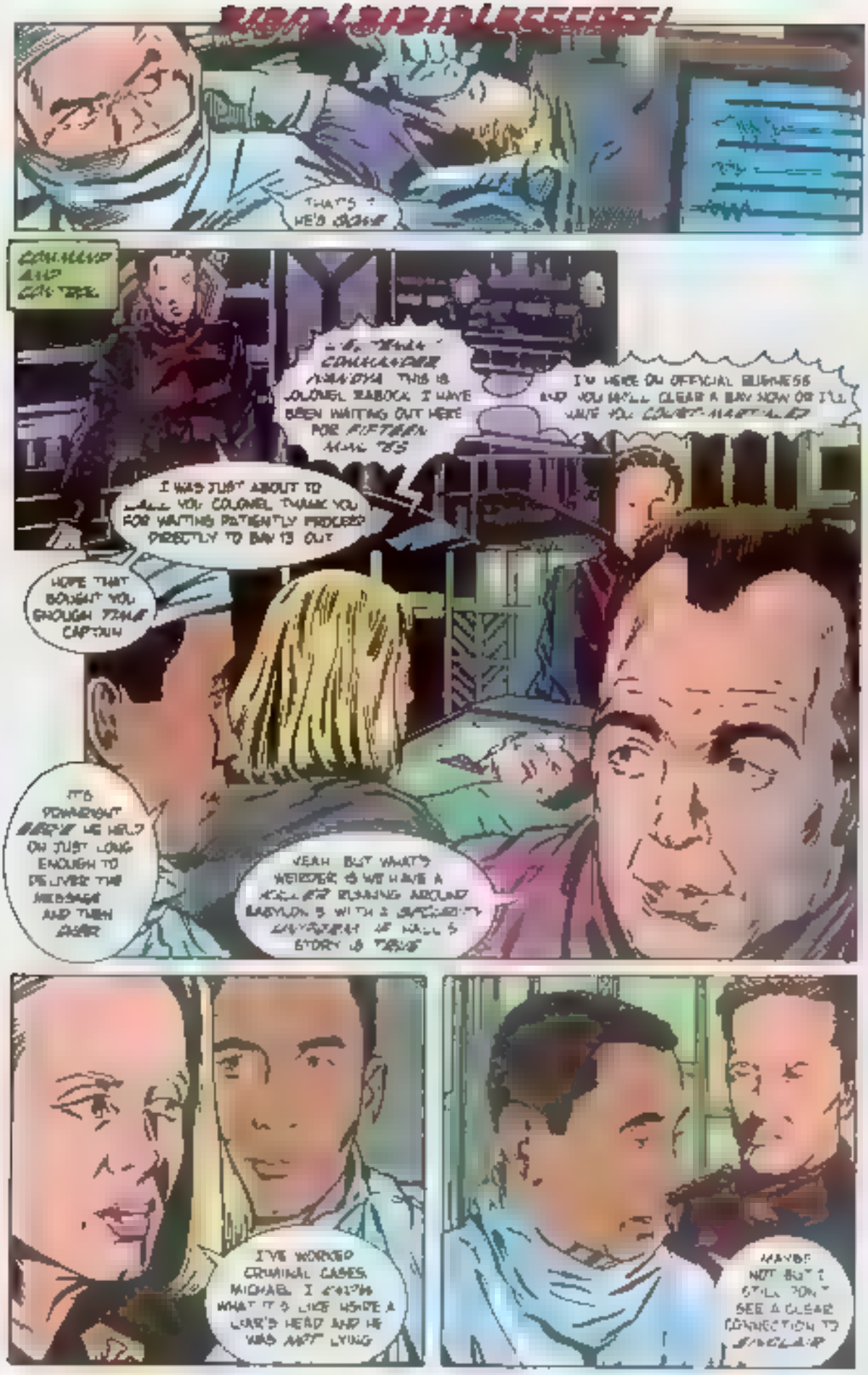

—A LOT OF MEN ON A SHIP THE DAYDREAM, A LUXURY STARLINER
THE DEATH OF THAT HUMAN STOOGE PRESIDENT SANTIAGO
THEY ALL THEMSELVES ARMIGERS THERE'S A PARTY GOING ON BUT HE'S CONCERNED THEY'RE CELEBRATING —
ONE OF THEM SAYS THERE'S AN EVENT COMING UP
HE SAYS HE DELIVERED A WEAPON TO SOMEONE ON
HALL SLIPS AWAY FROM THE CROWD HE'S BOUND TO THE
IT TRIES TO ALL FOR HALL HIMSELF HE MEMBER. BUT SOME THING'S IGNITED THE EQUIPMENT DOESN'T WORK AND

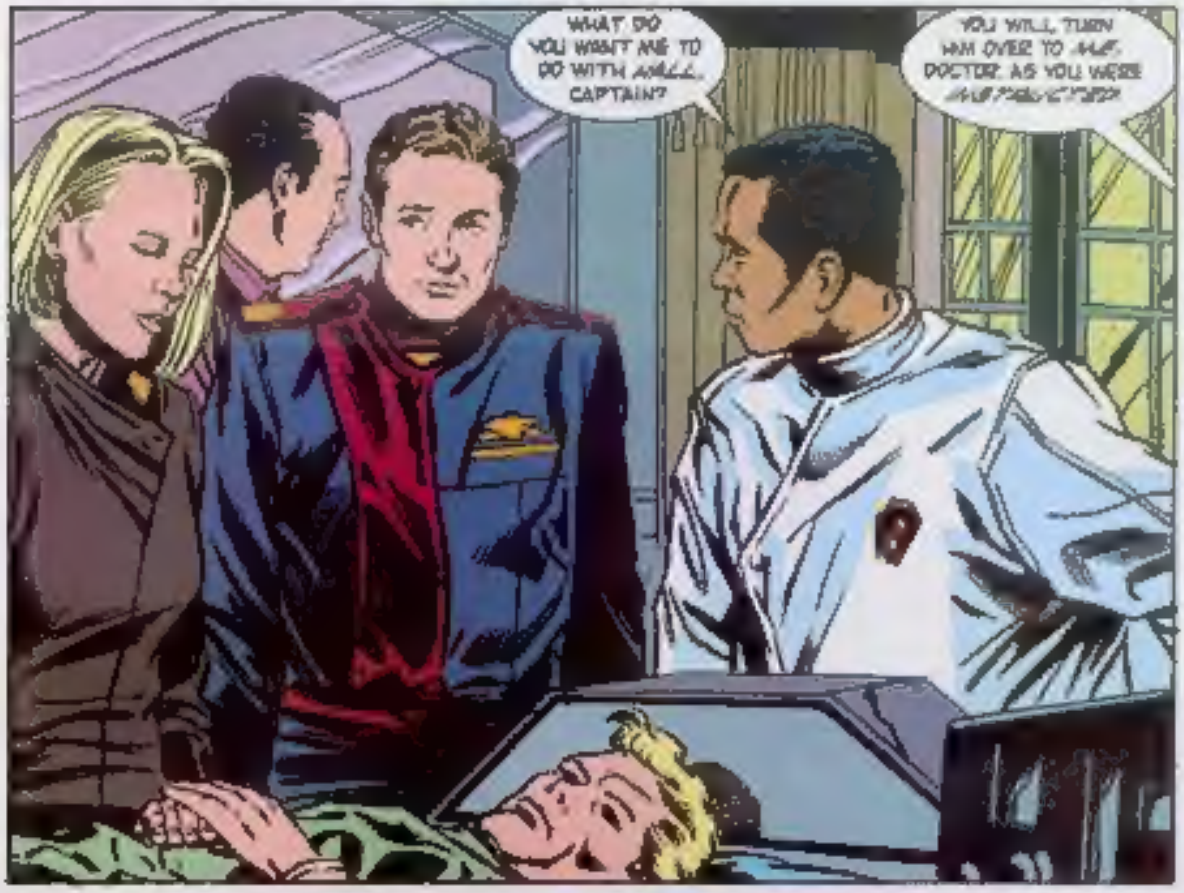

ONE OF THEM JOKES ABOUT REVIVING AN OLD FAD FROM PIRATE DAYS
THEY'RE GOING TO MAKE A MOVIE THAT GLORIFIES—
INTO THE HOLOCAUST—AND TELEVISION HAS NOT SPARED
HALL DRAWS HIS PPK AND FIRES INTO THE CROWD SEVERAL TIMES THEY SCATTER
HE RUNS FOR COVER WHILE
SOMEBODY
A-A
ARE YOU ALL
IT'S OKAY HIS BOY'S MAKE FRIENDS THE

HE REALIZES THE COCKPIT AND LOCKS THE DOOR. ORDERS THE PILOT TO CALL FOR HELP
THE PILOT AND THE COMMUNICATIONS CONSOLE ARE
HE REALIZES THE ENVIRONMENT

IN MINUTES THEY'RE ALL DEAD
HALL IS THE ONLY ONE WEARING A SPACESUIT—
—BUT HE'S BEEN SHOT UP BADLY HIS BACK IS FLOATS AMONG THE DEAD BODIES AND GLOBULES OF BLOOD
TIME PASSES HE'S BLACKING OUT
THANK GOD! HE THINKS HE'S GOING TO MAKE IT!

HE BLACKS OUT AGAIN. WHEN HE WAKES HE'S IN A SHIP. NO A STATION.
THERE'S A FIRE FIGHT AND THEY'RE WHEELING A STRETCHER
HE TRIES TO SPEAK BUT HIS THROAT WON'T WORK. HE REMEMBERS BEING SHOT IN THE NECK
HE KNOWS HER. SHE'S ADMINISTERED KEEP HIM FROM MOVING AND
HE NEEDS TO CONTACT ANOTHER TELEPATH. SOMEONE WHO CAN PROBE HIM AND WARN THE
BLACKNESS
HE AWAKES TO A GUN POINTED AT HIS HEAD. FOR A MOMENT HE THINKS IT'S A DREAM. OR THAT HE'S BACK ON THE BUT HE STILL CAN'T SPEAK
HE REACTS DEFENSIVELY - AND HURLS A MENTAL PSIONIC ATTACK AT THE ATTACKER IN THE BABYLON 5 SECURITY UNIFORM
HE STAGGERS OUTSIDE. HE FINDS WITTIER NEARBY DEAD. HE PICKS UP THE NAILS HIMSELF TO
HE REALISES A TELEPATHIC PRESENCE. HE SEARCHES FRANTICALLY FOR A NAME HE NEEDS TO FIND IT — WARNS US
HE DOES


THAT'S IT HE'S GONE
COMMAND AND CONTROL
I'M HERE ON OFFICIAL BUSINESS AND YOU WILL CLEAR A WAY NOW OR I'LL HAVE YOU COURT-MARTIALED
I WAS JUST ABOUT TO CALL YOU COLONEL THANK YOU FOR WAITING PATIENTLY PROCEED DIRECTLY TO BAY 13 OUT
HOPE THAT BOUGHT YOU ENOUGH TIME CAPTAIN
IT'S POSSIBLE WE'VE HELD ON JUST LONG ENOUGH TO DELIVER THE MESSAGE AND THEN SOME
YEAH BUT WHAT'S WEIRDER IS WE HAVE A KILLER RUNNING AROUND BABYLON 5 WITH A SUPERIORITY COMPLEX IF HALL'S STORY IS TRUE
I'VE WORKED CRIMINAL CASES MICHAEL I KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE HOLD A LIAR'S HEAD AND HE WAS NOT LYING
MAYBE NOT BUT I STILL DON'T SEE A CLEAR CONNECTION TO SINCLAIR


WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO WITH HALL, CAPTAIN?
YOU WILL TURN HIM OVER TO M&P. DOCTOR, AS YOU WERE INSTRUCTED!

CAPTAIN SHERIDAN. I'M COLONEL RABOCK, EARTHFORCE INTERNAL AFFAIRS. I UNDERSTAND TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE IN THIS MATTER, SO LET'S HAVE OK WITH IT.

HARSAD
AMBASSADOR SINCLAIR, YOU STAND ACCUSED OF PLOTTING TO ASSASSINATE THE CHOSEN ONE, OUR LEADER
HOW DO YOU PLEAD...?
NEXT:
THE CONCLUSION:
"THE PRICE OF PEACE"

B A B C O M

"It was the dawn of the third age of mankind... ten years after the Earth-Minbari war. The Babylon Project was a dream given form. Its goal: to prevent another war, by creating a place where humans and aliens could work out their differences peacefully. It's a port of call, home away from home, for diplomats, hustlers, entrepreneurs, and wanderers. Humans and aliens, wrapped in two million, five hundred thousand tons of spinning metal... all alone in the night. It can be a dangerous place, but it's our last, best hope for peace. This is the story of the last of the Babylon stations. The year is 2259. The name of the place is... **BABYLON 5.**"

IN THE BEGINNING, THERE WAS THE DESIGN

BY JOHN IACOVELLI

I am one of five original people who began work on Babylon 5 back in 1988. The others were J. Michael Straczynski, who created the show; our producers Douglas Netter and John Copeland; and Ron Thornton, who at the time was one of Hollywood's most well-known model builders and miniaturists.

When we began thinking about Babylon 5, imaging technology for television had barely begun to evolve. But Ron Thornton was a pioneer of video imaging. By the time the series was ready for production, he had become an expert at rendering on computer unbelievably good visions of space and space craft — to the point that we have never used models and never will. In many ways, Ron's abilities were what enabled us to make the show. He was rewarded for his efforts when he won an Emmy Award for Visual Effects for his work on the TV pilot.

In those first meetings, budget drove our thinking as much as creative ideas. Previous space/science fiction failures had made television producers wary of the costs of attempting a truly good show in the genre. But J. Michael Straczynski had created an universal space station and scene: Earth, characters within it, two hundred and fifty years in the future. The scenario was unlike any that had come before; we were interested in the dynamics within our own characters, we were not looking for new worlds. Also, our technology differed from that in the Star Wars or Star Trek universes. One entire story existed within a single galaxy and we did not benefit from the deus ex machina of teleporters and tractor beams.

Since Babylon 5 is basically round, I designed most of the spaces and rooms based on the components of a circle. Almost every element of the station's architecture starts with either an arc, radius, or circumference as a commanding feature. I also decided that no door should open as conventional doors do today; nothing is hinged, as they either rise like guillotines or slide like pocketdoors.

Another major decision was to juxtapose texture and bright colors with a grimy, used look. We wanted Babylon 5 to have a lived-in look. We felt everyone should ride Babylon 5's world, as it does our own. I remember looking out the windows of an airplane one day and noticing the paint on the fuselage was retaining dirt, and I realized that no matter how hard we try to make the world a perfect place, things get old and break down, just as we do.

There were many more challenges to be tackled in the making of the Babylon 5 you see today, not the least of which was the budget (about one third that of Deep Space Nine), time (we shoot an episode every seven days!), and space (we have three soundstages with extreme crowding, into which are changed only seven partly-current sets).

You might think working on the art department on Babylon 5 is a lot of fun. Well, it's hard work — but it is fun, too.

THE NARN FIGHTER COCKPIT

BY ROLAND ROSENKRANZ

The Narn fighter cockpit is one example of how Babylon 5 designers must accommodate the special needs of aliens.

The cockpit is a hybrid of present fighter design and Narn physical requirements. The exterior image was developed by Ron Thornton's company, Foundation Imaging, and like a contemporary jet fighter places the pilot almost horizontal within the craft.

The interior was completed by Babylon 5's production designers. The seat can, at the touch of a button, adjust a full 90° for use in any situation. The frame of the cockpit is wide to accommodate the large stature of the Narn, their heavy combat uniforms, plus allow for extended reach and range of motion.

NARN SINGLE-SEAT FIGHTER SPACECRAFT
INTERIOR VIEW, WITH AMBASSADOR G'KAR, LANDREAS KATSULAS IN THE DRIVER'S SEAT

Because they come in Narn heights and lengths, the control panels must be large. For the same reasons, all weapon systems are accessed or adjusted through touch-screen technology.

The fighter is designed to be combat-efficient for a Narn — a Minbari or a human it would find it neither comfortable nor efficient in combat.

DC COMICS

NEXT UP: **THE PRICE OF PEACE**

Gaiety vanishes as open bargaining turns into threats as Sinclair is pushed to the edge, a dilemma he finds no choice but to face. Mark Verheiden, Michael Netzer and Bob Lewis conclude the final chapter of this story arc.

BEHIND THE SCENES

IT'S THE LITTLE THINGS

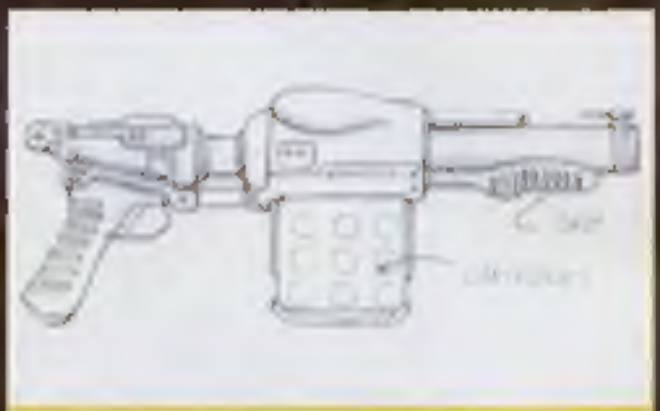
BY MARK-LOUIS WALTERS

Living in space in the 23rd century is not as easy as you might think. Suppose you are a friendly Babylon 5 security officer and you see a heinous act in progress. Do you just shoot the guy?

Well, probably so; but you'd better use your issue PPG, the standard sidearm of all Earthforce personnel.

"PPG" stands for Phase Plasma Gun. It shoots not a solid projectile, but an extremely hot charge of plasma-matter in an energized, molten state. The reason for this odd sort of ammo is that a projectile could puncture the hull of the ship — resulting in an instant vacuum, fatal for both shooter and target. Therefore, in space, it is the plasma gun or nothing, because anything else would be suicidal.

With this in mind, we began designing our PPG for Babylon 5. Under the supervision of Production Designer John Iacovelli, Propmaker Gene Young finalized the look, then fashioned the fearsome weapon from aluminum. Since the PPG is used by humans, and because the human hand would not have changed in the 23rd century, we figured the PPG should resemble weapons of today, with a familiar grip and trigger. We gave the gun the shape of a police-issue .38 revolver, its size and shape making it easy to carry and draw from a holster, just like police weapons of today.



EARTHFORCE GRENADE LAUNCHER
FOR SECURITY FORCES AND EARTHFORCE MARINES

The weapons of other races and beings are designed with similar ergonomics in mind. Crystals are a big part of Minbari technology, so when it came time to make a Minbari knife, I decided to incorporate a crystalline motif into the design. The blade of any knife would be more potent if it also delivered a shock or energy blast, so I decided to make the Minbari blade shocking as well as sharp.

I also felt that multiple blades would be more effective than a single crystal spike. The Minbari are a serious people who believe in study and research, so I knew their weapon design should be intelligent and well-thought out. Therefore, most Minbari small weapons are designed to be worn rather than carried. The knife then became a glove, worn over the hand; a warrior could punch with the blades or make terrible roundhouse slashing blows. When the knife was complete, we all agreed that a trained Minbari warrior with his crystalline glove-knife is not someone to tangle with.

LURKER GUN
AN ILLEGAL MARK OF PPG SMUGGLED ABOARD BABYLON 5

Other weapons were designed with similar considerations. The Narn have a PPG of their own, but it is almost a box with a handle because the Narns have large hands with large fingers and a pistol grip would be too smooth and complex for their powerful hands.

Centauri fancy swords and ornamental pistols that are, in their sword fights because pomp, ceremony, and appearance are of primary importance to any Centauri. These weapons are designed to meet aesthetic needs rather than practical considerations.

Drazi use a simple, primitive punch-style knife because they only fight each other and there only during certain years, as determined by their culture.

Attention to all these details helps bring Babylon 5 to life as a plausible vision of the future.

JOHN IACOVELLI is Production Designer for the Babylon 5 television show. **ROLAND ROSENKRANZ** and **MARC-LOUIS WALTERS** work with him, as Art Director and Propmaster, respectively.